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MC&G file

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16 August 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Notes on MC&G Working Group Meeting of
15 August 1968

1. Prior to taking up the agenda items, [REDACTED] introduced Miss [REDACTED] of OSP/CIA who had asked for the opportunity to present to the Working Group the problems they have faced in introducing MC&G "target areas" in computer programming KH-4 missions. They are very uncertain in writing the logic for MC&G requirements and have had only the guidance parameter of [REDACTED] units. What flight distance in miles covered and what widths are acceptable? [REDACTED] of SOC questioned the feasibility of continuing this requirement, and Mr. [REDACTED] of OACSI said that the MC&G people would never get the [REDACTED] slivers and occasional equatorial cloud-free areas with such a requirement. It was also noted that SOC would control coverage when a mission was operational. It was decided the OSP people would be briefed by the mapping technicians at AMS to better appreciate the MC&G coverage problem and would then come back to the Working Group for further guidance.

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NRO and DIA
review(s) completed.

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3. The problem of USGS requirements (item b) was discussed at length. [] is working closely with Mr. Sibert of USGS in formulating a paper for the Working Group for submittal to you. [] feels that the USGS requirements (recovery of six areas every five years; and of the remaining 25 percent of the U.S. every eight years) is unrealistic in terms of the availability of collection systems. He hopes to have Mr. Sibert come up with shorter-term requirements. He said that, []

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[] The above are gross estimates. I mentioned the cost factor, reflecting your views and several agreed, but felt that potential savings to USGS should be included in the paper, as of particular interest if the BoB becomes involved at some stage. In answer to my inquiry regarding use of film from engineering passes, [] said this photography was not usually suitable for mapping. [] said that the calibrated test areas were well established and could not be moved around at will, except possibly for some of the corn plots. He did not see any significant saving of film in this respect.

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4. There was some cautious inquiry on the meaning of item c regarding a potential positioning requirement indicated by NPIC. It turned out to be [] method of restating coordinates for some targets that had been grossly missed by []. He noted that ICRS accepted the new coordinates established by his method, as did SOC. [] said the community-wide problem of tying target coordinates to map or other sources recognized by all is under study and may be pertinent. He did not see that [] approach could help the geodetic accuracy problem. No action was indicated.

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5. In discussing item d, reference was made to the enclosure to the agenda (an excerpt from [] letter to you of 6 August 1968). [] felt that benefits from putting the [] beacon on the KH-4s would buy very little, if anything, in improving geodetic positioning over denied areas, and in any case would have to wait until the SGLSs (Satellite Ground Length Sub-System) are operational in June 1970. [] said his geodesists disagree. [] then said that he could make some of the detailed studies available which [] letter of 6 August had summarized. He even suggested that the problem might warrant a formal presentation before the Working Group members. This was picked up immediately and something will undoubtedly be scheduled soon because there was a general feeling the MC&G people should look into the whole matter more deeply before making judgments. [] mentioned to me later that the experts at DIAMC and AMS do not have [] [] clearance, which makes the situation very difficult. He will take the necessary steps. Clearly no paper is coming forward to you for some time to come. []

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6.

[] He would like to have technical people of the DoD participate in the "user meetings" arranged by [] and Company. There is one coming up. I think [] will call [] about it. However, [] may ask you to suggest such participation. The MC&G people want to make sure that any design details [] as well as the SI, that might be favorable to their needs and of little or no added cost are not overlooked.

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